17th February 1955]

" Rajankulam ", Tindivanam

* 784 *Q.*—Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any estimate is pending with the Government for improving the drinking water pond—Rajankulam—in Tindivanam Municipality ; and

(*b*) if so, when it is likely to be sanctioned?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" The Hon. Minister is pleased to reply that no estimate is pending. I submit that some amount was sanctioned last year for the improvement of this tank. May I know what became of the estimate that was pending? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Municipal Commissioner requested the Sanitary Engineer and the Director, King Institute, Guindy, to suggest certain remedial measures for improving the condition of the water in this tank and they recommended certain treatment to the water in the tank. We do not know what action the Municipality has taken in this regard."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" As the pond is a very important source of supply of drinking water in that growing town, may I request the Government to look into the matter and improve the pond? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not recognized as a protected water-supply source. The Government sanctioned in May 1953 plans and estimates for the first stage of the scheme comprising the sinking of an experimental well for conduct of yield and quality tests. Further stages of the scheme will be taken up after ascertaining the result of the experiment."

" Rauwolfia serpentina "

* 785 *Q.*—Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 11-40 a.m.

(*a*) the total area in Malabar district where *Rauwolfia serpentina* grows ;

(*b*) the extent of Government forest out of that area ;

(*c*) whether any restrictions have been put on the removal from or growing in Government forests of this herb ; and

(*d*) whether the Government have directed research to be done on the medicinal properties of this herb?